

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 1403

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: CYPRUS: TURKISH DEVELOPMENTS

BEGIN SUMMARY: RECENT TURK GOVT POLICY REVIEW OF
CYPRUS SITUATION PRODUCED CONSENSUS THAT A NEGOTIATED
SETTLEMENT MUST BE SOUGHT AND THAT FINAL SETTLEMENT MUST
HAVE A FEDERATIVE CAST. END SUMMARY.

1. ON FEB 25 WE ASKED BARUTCU, IN CHARGE MFA'S
CYPRUS-GREECE DEPT, ABOUT THE CYPRUS POLICY REVIEW
WHICH HAD TAKEN PLACE DURING ALDIKACTI'S RECENT VISIT TO
ANKARA. BARUTCU SAID THAT FONMIN GUNES, AS WELL AS
CABINET, MILITARY AND GOVT OFFICIALS INVITED TO ATTEND THE
MEETINGS, WAS NOT HAPPY WITH THE SITUATION PORTRAYED BY
ALDIKACTI. THEIR UNHAPPINESS STEMS MOSTLY FROM THE POOR
ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE TURK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY. IT
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WAS AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO INTERFERENCE

WITH THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AND ALDIKACTI WAS ENCOURAGED TO CONTINUE HIS WORK ALONG THE LINES HE HAD OUTLINED.

2. AS A RESULT OF THESE MEETINGS, BARUTCU SAID THE PRESENT GOVT'S POLICY COULD BE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

(A) A SETTLEMENT MUST BE NEGOTIATED, NOT FORCED IN ANY WAY; AND
(B) THE FINAL NATURE OF THE SOLUTION SHOULD HAVE A FEDERATIVE CAST. FEDERATION ITSELF, BARUTCU OBSERVED, WAS NOT POSSIBLE IN THE STRICT SENSE, SINCE THIS WOULD REQUIRE AN EXCHANGE OF POPULATIONS, TO WHICH TURKEY WAS OPPOSED.

3. THE DECISION TO EXPAND THE TURKISH SUBSIDY TO THE TURK COMMUNITY BY 20 PERCENT WAS TAKEN IN ORDER TO IMPRESS ON MAKARIOS THAT TURKEY WOULD IN NO WAY EXHIBIT ANY SLACKENING OF INTEREST IN THE COMMUNITY. THE SUBSIDY WOULD PROBABLY GO UP ANOTHER 20 PERCENT NEXT YEAR.

4. BARUTCU SAID IT WAS THE GENERAL CONSENSUS OF THESE MEETINGS THAT TURKS SHOULD NOT ONLY AIM FOR BUT ALSO WORK HARD FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT, WHICH CERTAINLY WOULD BE TO TURKEY'S INTERESTS, ALTHOUGH, ADMITTEDLY, NOT IN THE INTERESTS OF MAKARIOS. IN BARUTCU'S OPINION, MAKARIOS WOULD NEVER AGREE TO ANY SETTLEMENT AND THIS HAD GIVEN RISE IN THESE MATTERS TO A POSSIBLE SCENARIO WHEREBY THE ARCHBISHOP WOULD SHED HIS SECULAR DUTIES AS PRESIDENT AND OPPOSE A SETTLEMENT ONLY FROM HIS ECCLESIASTICAL CHAIR, THUS MAKING GOOD HIS VOW THAT HE WOULD NEVER BUCKLE TO PRESSURES A SECOND TIME (THE FIRST BEING IN 1960).

5. BARUTCU SAID PRESS STORIES COMING OUT OF THE LAHORE ISLAMIC SUMMIT TO THE EFFECT THAT TURKEY HAD INSISTED THAT ALL MUSLIM STATES RECOGNIZE AN INDEPENDENT TURKISH GOVT ON CYPRUS BEFORE TURKEY BROKE RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL WERE UNTRUE. BARUTCU SAID, HOWEVER, THAT GUNES BEFORE LEAVING ANKARA HAD BEEN TOYING WITH A VARIATION OF THIS IDEA, IF HE WERE PRESSED TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. GUNES WOULD SIMPLY CALL ON THE OTHER STATES TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH CYPRUS.

6. COMMENT: IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ALDIKACTI'S SPEECH ON FEDERALISM (NICOSIA 334) MAY HAVE BEEN STIMULATED BY THE POLICY REVIEW. WHAT SEEMS TO US MORE SIGNIFICANT, HOWEVER, CONFIDENTIAL

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IS ANKARA'S GROWING DEPENDENCE ON ALDIKACTI. THIS HAS BEEN DEVELOPING FOR SOME TIME. TO ILLUSTRATE, BARUTCU ON TWO OCCASIONS HAS SAID THAT TURKISH CHARGE INHAN CAME TO TURKEY EXCLUSIVELY FOR DISCUSSIONS ON THE NEW FINANCIAL SUBSIDY. HE PARTICIPATED IN THE POLICY REVIEW MORE AS A COURTESY TO HIM THAN ANYTHING ELSE. ALDIKACTI WAS THE PRIME ACTION. MACOMBER

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